

REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the time and consideration that the Examiner has provided in reviewing this application. By the above amendment, claims 1-14 have been amended and new claims 19-22 have been added.

In the Office Action dated September 21, 2004, the examiner objected to the disclosure because of a missing period on page 6, line 4. Accordingly, the specification has been amended, as reflected above, to insert the missing period. The examiner also objected to claim 8 as missing a period. This objection has also been addressed through the amendment to claim 8, above. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the examiner withdraw the objections to the disclosure and to claim 8.

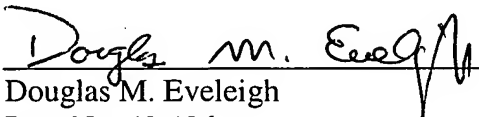
The examiner also rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103, noting that “the claiming of a ‘battery bolt’ is not positively claiming a battery, or even a battery environment.” Accordingly, the applicants have amended the claims to positively claim a battery environment. Further, the applicants have amended the claims to recite that the sealing portion of the bolt is in contact with a planar surface of a subassembly of the battery. Such a structure, among other elements of the claims, is not disclosed, taught, and/or suggested in the art of record. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103.

In addition, the applicants have added new claims 19-22, which the applicants also submit are novel and in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, and in view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable consideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Applicants also submit that by the above amendments, no new matter has been added to the application. If, for any reason, the application and claims are not in condition for allowance, or any additional information is required, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (312) 701-8738. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 21, 2005